



# CITY OF SEQUIM

## News October 2016



### Meeting Dates & Locations

The meetings are held at the Civic Center located at  
152 W. Cedar Street.

City Council Regular Meeting Council Chambers	2nd & 4th Monday 6:00 p.m.
City Council Work Session Council Chambers (when required)	2nd & 4th Monday 5:00 p.m.
Planning Commission Council Chambers	1st & 3rd Tuesday 6:00 p.m.
Parks and Recreation Board Community Conf. Room	1st Monday 6:30 p.m.
Lodging Tax Advisory Comm. Community Conf. Room	Quarterly—Next Meeting December 9—10:00 a.m.
Arts Advisory Commission Community Conf. Room	3rd Monday 3:00 p.m.

### City Council Reviews 2017 Budget

City Manager Charlie Bush presented the proposed 2017 budget to the City Council at the September 26, 2016 meeting.

The budget, reflecting the City Council's top priorities, is the proposed financial plan for the upcoming calendar year and is focused on the maintenance of current service levels within the constraints of City resources. The proposed budget includes balanced revenues and expenses in the General Fund and maintains acceptable reserve levels.

There is a proposed 2% increase in water rates, which would translate to 60 cents per month for a household using 650 cubic feet of water per month. The increase will be reflected in the February 2017 statements. The water rate increase is based on the 2013/14 rate study that indicates the annual adjustment is important to maintain the financial health of the utility operation as well as to meet the current and future debt levels and to maintain target reserves. Also proposed are structural changes to the billing of multi-family, hotel and motel, and commercial properties. These changes will have a positive impact on the equitable distribution of operating costs related to delivery service. The proposed budget includes the continuation of the low income discount policy which reduces utility bills for those who qualify. There is no proposed rate increase for sewer.

The budget also proposes the 1% property tax increase allowed by law. The 1% increase in revenue is based on the City's total assessed value, which is estimated to be considerably higher this year because of the growth in new construction. This growth may actually cause the City portion of individual property taxes to decrease, depending on individual assessed values. The final property tax levy is certified by the County Assessor's office in January after all taxing districts have submitted their requests.

Opposite are charts that display where the City's General Fund revenue comes from and how the monies are distributed through City departments.

The City Council will continue to review the budget through November and citizens are encouraged to attend those sessions. To review the proposed budget online, visit [www.sequimwa.gov](http://www.sequimwa.gov).

### UPCOMING PUBLIC HEARINGS

**October 10** —1) Wi-Fi Ordinance  
2) Eagle Crest Subdivision Plat Alteration (Quasi-Judicial)

### 2017 Budget Calendar

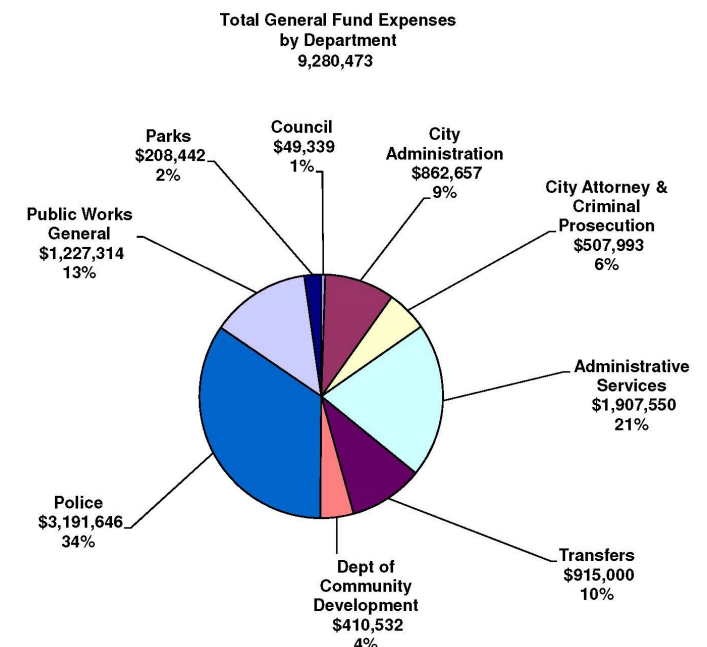
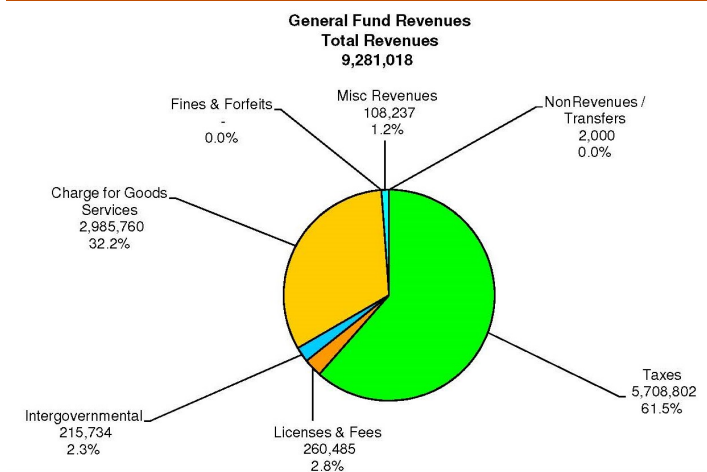
All meetings are at the Sequim Civic Center, 152 West Cedar Street. Visit [www.sequimwa.gov](http://www.sequimwa.gov) for updates.

**October 10**—Departmental Budgets

**October 24**—Public Works and Capital Projects

**November 14**—Public Hearing on Property Tax, Revenues, Fees and Utility Rates

**November 28**—City Council Adopts 2017 Budget & Property Tax Levy, Revenues, Fees, and Utility Rates.





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## Water Saving Tip of the Month

### In the bathroom—INSTALL A 1.6 GALLON LOW-FLOW TOILET.

Ultra-low flow toilets use only 1.6 gallons of water per flush. Using these could cut indoor water use by as much as 20%. Older toilets use 3.5 to 5 gallons per flush.



## Have a Safe Halloween!

- **When choosing a costume**, stay away from long trailing fabric. If your child is wearing a mask, make sure the eye holes are large enough so they can see out.
- **Provide children** with flashlights to carry for lighting or use glow sticks as part of their costume.
- Dried flowers, cornstalks, and crepe paper catch fire easily. **Keep all decorations** away from open flames and other heat sources like light bulbs and heaters.
- **Use a battery-operated** candle or glow-stick in jack-o-lanterns. If you use a real candle, use extreme caution. Make sure children are watched at all times when candles are lit. When lighting candles inside jack-o-lanterns, use long, fireplace style matches or a utility lighter. Be sure to place lit pumpkins well away from anything that can burn and far enough out of the way of trick-or-treaters, doorsteps, walkways, and yards.
- **Remember to keep exits clear of decorations**, so nothing blocks escape routes.
- **Make sure all smoke alarms** in the home are working.
- **Tell children to say away from open flames** including jack-o-lanterns with candles in them. Be sure they know how to stop, drop, and roll if their clothing catches fire. (Have them practice, stopping immediately, dropping to the ground, covering their face with their hands and rolling over to put the flame out.)



### Change is Coming at the Interpretive Center

The City's Interpretive Center at the Water Reuse Park will not be staffed regularly after October, but will transition to include self-serve assistance on stormwater management in the future. To learn about Sequim's water supplies, water quality, and the creative ways we're promoting to capture rainwater on your property, stop by the Center at 500 N. Blake Ave. during regular hours this month, the second and fourth Thursdays in October (the 6<sup>th</sup> and the 20<sup>th</sup>, 12-2pm). Or, for an appointment contact Ann Soule, 582-2436.

## Coffee with the Mayor in October

Meet Sequim Mayor Dennis Smith as the Coffee with the Mayor program continues in October. Assistant to the City Manager Joe Irvin will join the



Mayor  
Dennis Smith



Asst. to the City  
Mngr. Joe Irvin

Mayor at the Bell Creek Bar and Grill, located at 707 E. Washington Street, at 8:30 a.m. on Thursday, October 20, to meet with anyone who wants to chat, ask questions, express a concern, or make a comment about the City or the community. Please contact Dennis Smith at dsmith@sequimwa.gov with questions.



## GET THE LATEST NEWS!

There are now more ways than ever to keep up with what is happening in the City of Sequim.

**E-Notifications**—Sign up to receive City news and announcements directly through your email. Visit [www.sequimwa.gov](http://www.sequimwa.gov) and click on E-Notifications.

**Like Us on Facebook**—City of Sequim Government and Sequim Tourism Government

**Follow us on Twitter**—City of Sequim@CityofSequim and Visit Sunny Sequim@VisitSequim

## Fiber Arts Exhibit

Join us the for First Friday Art Walk on October 7 and the opening of the Fiber Arts Exhibit. Sequim Civic Center, 152 W. Cedar Street. Exhibit runs until December 31. 8:00 a.m. through 4:30 p.m. Monday through Friday.



## Congratulations to the Water Reclamation Facility Operators !

The City of Sequim Water Reclamation Facility has received a "Wastewater Treatment Plant Outstanding Performance" award for 2015 by the Washington State Department of Ecology (DOE). This is the fifth year in a row that the Sequim Reclamation Facility has received the award for achieving full compliance with its National Pollutant Discharge Elimination System (NPDES) permit. Only 119 systems out of approximately 300 received the award.

"To earn this award year after year, it requires team effort between the Water Reclamation Facility operators and the support of the City Council, management, and the Public Works staff," said Sequim Utilities Manager Pete Tjemslund.

The Department of Ecology evaluates wastewater treatment plants in Washington for their compliance with effluent limits, monitoring and reporting requirements, spill prevention planning, pretreatment, and overall operational demands of the NPDES permit.